



**US Army Corps  
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# News Release

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## Hecker Named New USACE Homeland Security Chief

WASHINGTON (February 11, 2003) -- Lt. Gen. Robert Flowers, commander of the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), has announced the appointment of Mr. Edward Hecker to the new Senior Executive Service (SES) position of Chief, Homeland Security Office in the Directorate of Civil Works at the Corps headquarters. Hecker assumed his new position Sunday.

Hecker, 52, had previously been chief of the Civil Emergency Management Branch at Corps headquarters for 10 years. He has now been named to head the new homeland security office, which Flowers established to deal with potential threats to USACE facilities.

"I know Ed will do a great job in carrying out this mission of vital importance to our nation's security," said Flowers in announcing Hecker's appointment.

The USACE Homeland Security Office is responsible for USACE civil emergency management and critical infrastructure protection programs. In addition, Hecker is charged with working with elements of the new U.S. Department of Homeland Security, and the Army and Defense Departments to coordinate USACE support to the overall Homeland Security mission.

Hecker said he has two immediate priorities for his new position. "We need, first, to identify the individual and independent homeland security elements, initiatives and programs that are ongoing throughout the Corps, and organize them into a coordinated program framework. Secondly, we need to establish a dialog with our customers, stakeholders and partners to get their views on where USACE needs to focus its homeland security efforts."

A Baltimore native, Hecker has worked at USACE headquarters since August of 1991. He had a previous headquarters assignment from 1982-87. In between, he was chief of Emergency Management for the USACE South Pacific Division in San Francisco.

He is a graduate of Johns Hopkins University, with a degree in civil engineering. He and his wife are the parents of three grown children and have one grandchild.

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